

JC87 Rec'd PCT/PTO 30 JAN 2002

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 371		Attorney's Docket Number 045636-5053
International Application. No.	International Filing Date	U.S. Application No. Unassigned 10/048209
PCT/FR00/02174	July 28, 2000	Priority Date Claimed July 30, 1999

Title of Invention: APPLICATIONS OF PEPTIDES DERIVED FROM THE CYTOPLASMIC
DOMAIN OF AMYLOID PRECURSOR PROTEIN (APP)

Applicants For EO/EO/US: Bernadette ALLINQUANT and Alain PROCHIANTZ

Applicants herewith submit to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371.
2. ☐ This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371.
3. ☐ This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. § 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. § 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(I).
4. ☒ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(2))
 - a. ☐ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☒ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☐ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(2)).
7. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(3)).
 - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☒ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(3)).
9. ☐ An oath or declaration of the inventors (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(4)).
10. ☒ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(5)).

Items 11. to 14. below concern other document(s) or information included:

11. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98.
12. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 3.28 and § 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A FIRST preliminary amendment.
14. ☒ A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.
- Other items or information:
 - a. WO 01/09170
 - b. PCT/IB/304
 - c. PCT/IB/308
 - d. International Search Report
 - e. Statement Accompanying Sequence Listing
 - f. Diskette containing Sequence Listing CRF
 - g. Paper Copy of Sequence Listing
 - h. PCT/IB/409 (in French)

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U.S. APPLICATION NO. **10/048209** | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. | ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
 Unassigned | PCT/FR00/02174 | 045636-5053

15. ☒ The following fees are submitted:
Basic National Fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.492(a)(1)-(5)):
 Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO.....\$890.00
 International preliminary examination fee paid to
 USPTO (37 C.F.R. § 1.482).....\$710.00
 No international preliminary examination fee paid to
 USPTO (37 C.F.R. § 1.482) but international search fee
 paid to USPTO (37 C.F.R. § 1.445(a)(2)).....\$740.00
 Neither international preliminary examination fee
 (37 C.F.R. § 1.482) nor international search fee
 (37 C.F.R. § 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO.....\$1,040.00
 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO
 (37 C.F.R. § 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions
 of PCT Article 33(2)-(4).....\$100.00
ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT = \$890.00
 Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than
☐ 20 ☒ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date
 (37 C.F.R. § 1.492(e)). \$

Claims	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate	
Total Claims	9 - 20 =	0	X \$18.00	\$
Independent Claims	4 - 3 =	1	X \$84.00	\$ 84.00
Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)			+ \$280.00	\$
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS				\$
Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity statement must also be filed. (Note 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9, 1.27, 1.28)				-\$
SUBTOTAL =				\$
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 C.F.R. § 1.492(f)).				+\$
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$890.00
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 C.F.R. § 1.21(h)). The Assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 C.F.R. §§ 3.230, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				\$
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$
Amount to be refunded				\$
Amount to be charged				\$

- a. ☒ A check in the amount of \$890.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.
 b. ☒ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 50-0310 in the amount of **\$84.00**
 c. ☒ **Except** for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.130, the Commissioner is hereby
 authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this
 application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and § 1.17 which may be required, or
 credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

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Submitted: January 30, 2002

10040209 10/048209

JG13 Rec'd PCT/PTC 30 JAN 2002

PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 45636-5053-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **Bernadette ALLINQUANT *et al.***)

Application No.:)

(based on PCT/FR00/02174))

Filed: **January 30, 2002**)

Group Art Unit: **Not Assigned**

Examiner: **Not Assigned**

For: **Applications of Peptides Derived From the
Cytoplasmic Domain of Amyloid Precursor
Protein (APP)**)

BOX SEQUENCE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

STATEMENT ACCOMPANYING SEQUENCE LISTING

Dear Sir:

The undersigned hereby states upon information and belief that the Sequence Listing submitted concurrently herewith does not include matter which goes beyond the content of the application as filed and that the information recorded on the diskette submitted concurrently herewith is identical to the written Sequence Listing submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Dated: January 30, 2002

By: Rachel B. Kapust
Rachel B. Kapust

Customer No. 09629

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SEQUENCE LISTING

<110> CENTRE NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE -CNRS
ALLINQUANT, Bernadette
PROCHIANTZ, Alain

<120> APPLICATIONS OF PEPTIDES DERIVED FROM THE CYTOPLASMIC
DOMAIN OF AMYLOID PRECURSOR PROTEIN (APP)

<130> 45636-5053-US

<140>

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<151> 2000-07-28

<160> 9

<170> PatentIn Ver. 2.1

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1004020910/048209

JC13 Rec'd PCT/PTO 30 JAN 2002

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 045636-5054

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
Bernadette ALLINQUAT, et al.)	
)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
U.S. National Phase Application)	
Filed: January 30, 2002)	Examiner: Unassigned
)	
U.S. Application No.: To Be Assigned)	
)	
Date of National)	
Stage Entry : Concurrently)	
)	
Based on PCT/FR00/02174)	
Filed : July 28, 2000)	
)	
For: NOVEL APPLICATIONS OF PEPTIDES)	
DERIVED FROM THE CYTOPLASMIC)	
DOMAIN OF AMYLOID PRECURSOR)	
PROTEIN)	

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application on the merits, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2.

Attorney Docket No.: 045636-5054

Application No.: Unassigned

Alzheimer's disease is a neurodegenerative disorder which affects from 1 to 6% of the population over the age of 65. One of its characteristics is the presence of senile plaques which contain β -amyloid (β A4 or BAP), which is a toxic product derived from APP and consisting of peptides of 39 to 42 amino acids, which are engendered by cleavage of APP by two proteases, β - and γ -secretase. Moreover, a third enzyme, named α -secretase, cleaves APP between the β - and γ -sites, therefore making it impossible to form the supposedly pathogenic β A4. None of these secretases has, to date, been identified, even though there are legitimate suspicions regarding the PS1 protein (product of the Presenilin-1 gene, mutated in familial forms of Alzheimer's disease). In fact, PS1 may be either γ -secretase or one of its cofactors. Finally, other cleavage sites exist in the C-terminal domain, including the site for caspases (N. Barnes et al., J. Neuroscience, 1998, 18, 15, 5869-5880), between the aspartate and alanine residues of SEQ ID NO: 1 (positions 16 and 17). It remains that the mechanisms responsible for the toxicity of β A4 are unknown and that the relationship between the presence of β A4 in the plaques and the pathological condition has not been elucidated. It is probable that other factors and/or other domains of the molecule are also involved.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-11 and add the following claims 12-20.

Attorney Docket No.: 045636-5054

Application No.: Unassigned

12. A peptide selected from the group of consisting of $Y_1KQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 2), $Y_1KKQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 3) and $Y_1KKKQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 4), in which Y_0 is null or represents V, VV, VVE VVEV or VVEVD and Y_1 represents an internalization and addressing peptide corresponding to the sequence $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8X_9X_{10}X_{11}X_{12}X_{13}X_{14}X_{15}X_{16}$, in which $X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6, X_7, X_8, X_9, X_{10}, X_{11}, X_{12}, X_{13}, X_{14}, X_{15}$ and X_{16} each represent an α -amino acid, 6 to 10 of said amino acids being hydrophobic and X_6 representing a tryptophan.

13. The peptide as claimed in claim 12, wherein the sequence Y_1 corresponds to the sequence KQIKIWFQNRRMKWKK (SEQ ID NO: 5).

14. A method of selecting and screening products capable of inhibiting apoptosis comprising detecting inhibition of the capacity of the juxtamembrane domain located between positions 649 and 664 of the cytoplasmic domain of amyloid precursor protein to induce apoptotic activity subsequent to internalization into a cell.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said peptide is combined with an internalization peptide selected from the group consisting of internalization peptides capable of crossing the blood-brain barrier.

Attorney Docket No.: 045636-5054

Application No.: Unassigned

16. A method of selecting and screening products capable of inhibiting apoptosis comprising detecting inhibition of the capacity of a peptide selected from the group consisting of $Y_1KQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 2), $Y_1KKQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 3) and $Y_1KKKQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 4), in which Y_0 is null or represents V, VV, VVE VVEV or VVEVD and Y_1 is null or represents an internalization and addressing peptide corresponding to the sequence $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8X_9X_{10}X_{11}X_{12}X_{13}X_{14}X_{15}X_{16}$, in which $X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6, X_7, X_8, X_9, X_{10}, X_{11}, X_{12}, X_{13}, X_{14}, X_{15}$ and X_{16} each represent an α -amino acid, 6 to 10 of said amino acids being hydrophobic and X_6 representing a tryptophan, to induce apoptotic activity subsequent to internalization into a cell.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein candidate inhibitors are tested against cells in which the claimed peptide has been internalized.

18. The method of claim 17 comprising the steps of:

- bringing the potential inhibitor into contact with said cell into which said peptide has been internalized, and

either measuring cleavage of DNA or of actin or measuring the p20 subunit of caspase 3.

Attorney Docket No.: 045636-5054

Application No.: Unassigned

20. A peptide selected from the group consisting of peptides $Y_1KQYTSIHHGY_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 2) and $Y_1KKQYTSIHHGY_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 3), in which Y_0 is null or represents V, VV, VVE VVEV or VVEVD and Y_1 is null, and of the peptide of formula $Y_1KKKQYTSIHHGY_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 4), in which Y_0 represents VVEVD and Y_1 is null.

Attorney Docket No.: 045636-5054

Application No.: Unassigned

19. A method of treating cancer comprising the administration of an effective amount of a peptide of claim 12.

20. A peptide selected from the group of peptides $Y_1KQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 2) and $Y_1KKQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 3), in which Y_0 is null or represents V, VV, VVE VVEV or VVEVD and Y_1 is null, and of the peptide of formula $Y_1KKKQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 4), in which Y_0 represents VVEVD and Y_1 is null.

Attorney Docket No.: 045636-5054

Application No.: Unassigned

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully submit that no prohibited new matter has been introduced by this Preliminary Amendment and that amended claims 12-20 are drawn to the same invention as claims 1-11 of International Application PCT/FR00/00217. The changes to the claims represent changes in formalities so as to bring the claims into compliance with the rules of practice in the United States, by avoiding improper multiple dependencies and eliminating multiple dependencies to reduce costs; and to eliminate improper "use" claims.

Respectfully Submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

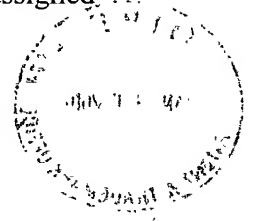
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Attorney Docket No.: 045636-5054

Application No.: Unassigned

**MARKED UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES**

As to the paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2, note change in residue positions referred to:

Alzheimer's disease is a neurodegenerative disorder which affects from 1 to 6% of the population over the age of 65. One of its characteristics is the presence of senile plaques which contain β -amyloid (β A4 or BAP), which is a toxic product derived from APP and consisting of peptides of 39 to 42 amino acids, which are engendered by cleavage of APP by two proteases, β - and γ -secretase. Moreover, a third enzyme, named α -secretase, cleaves APP between the β - and γ -sites, therefore making it impossible to form the supposedly pathogenic β A4. None of these secretases has, to date, been identified, even though there are legitimate suspicions regarding the PS1 protein (product of the Presenilin-1 gene, mutated in familial forms of Alzheimer's disease). In fact, PS1 may be either γ -secretase or one of its cofactors. Finally, other cleavage sites exist in the C-terminal domain, including the site for caspases (N. Barnes et al., J. Neuroscience, 1998, 18, 15, 5869-5880), between the aspartate and alanine residues of SEQ ID NO: 1 (positions {15} 16 and {16} 17). It remains that the mechanisms responsible for the toxicity of β A4 are unknown and that the relationship between the presence of β A4 in the plaques and the pathological condition has not been elucidated. It is probable that other factors and/or other domains of the molecule are also involved.

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PCT/FR00/02174

APPLICATIONS OF PEPTIDES DERIVED FROM THE CYTOPLASMIC
DOMAIN OF AMYLOID PRECURSOR PROTEIN (APP)

5 The present invention relates to novel applications of
peptides derived from the cytoplasmic domain of amyloid
precursor protein (APP).

10 Amyloid precursor protein APP, is a protein of unknown
function, the neuronal form of which comprises 695
amino acids; it has a single transmembrane domain
(positions 625-648) and a short 47 amino acid
cytoplasmic domain (positions 649-695) represented in
the attached sequence listing under the number SEQ ID
NO:1.

15 Alzheimer's disease is a neurodegenerative disorder
which affects from 1 to 6% of the population over the
age of 65. One of its characteristics is the presence
of senile plaques which contain β -amyloid (β A4 or BAP),
20 which is a toxic product derived from APP and
consisting of peptides of 39 to 42 amino acids, which
are engendered by cleavage of APP by two proteases, β -
and γ -secretase. Moreover, a third enzyme, named α -
secretase, cleaves APP between the β - and γ -sites,
25 therefore making it impossible to form the supposedly
pathogenic β A4. None of these secretases has, to date,
been identified, even though there are legitimate
suspicions regarding the PS1 protein (product of the
Presenilin-1 gene, mutated in familial forms of
30 Alzheimer's disease). In fact, PS1 may be either γ -
secretase or one of its cofactors. Finally, other
cleavage sites exist in the C-terminal domain,
including the site for caspases (N. Barnes et al., J.
Neuroscience, 1998, 18, 15, 5869-5880), between the
35 aspartate and alanine residues of SEQ ID NO: 1
(positions 15 and 16). It remains that the mechanisms
responsible for the toxicity of β A4 are unknown and
that the relationship between the presence of β A4 in
the plaques and the pathological condition has not been

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elucidated. It is probable that other factors and/or other domains of the molecule are also involved.

For this reason, many studies have tried to establish the physiological and/or physiopathological role of APP and of the various products of its metabolism. In fact, the physiological ligand, if it exists, of the N-terminal domain has not been identified and the signalling pathways are still poorly defined. One of the strategies for making it possible to analyze these signalling pathways is the identification of molecular partners of the cytoplasmic domain.

The cytoplasmic domain of APP, and also various peptides derived from this cytoplasmic domain, have in particular been studied:

- the sequences YTSI, KKKQYTSIHGVVEV (SEQ ID NO: 8), GYENPTY (SEQ ID NO: 9) and NPTY have been identified as internalization signals; more precisely, they are considered to be sequences for transcytosis of APP between the basolateral and apical compartments of MDCK epithelial cells (Haass et al., J. Cell Biol., 1995, 128, 4, 537-547; Lai et al., J. Biol. Chem., 1995, 270, 8, 3565-3573; Lai et al., J. Biol. Chem., 1998, 273, 6, 3732-3739);

- the C-terminal cytoplasmic domain (APP-Cter) has been identified as:

- . being involved in regulating the GTPase activity of the α subunit of heterotrimeric G protein (Brouillet et al., J. Neuroscience, 1999, 19, 5, 1717-1727);

- . interacting with several proteins: Pat-1 interacts with the juxtamembrane domain (KKKQYTSIHG) and with the complete C-terminal domain and is thought to be involved in transporting APP along microtubules, toward the cell surface (Zheng et al., PNAS, 1998, 95, 14745-

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14750); the α subunit of heterotrimeric G protein interacts with the median region of said C-terminal cytoplasmic domain, at the histidine doublet (HH)⁻ (Nishimoto et al., Nature, 1993, 362, 75-79) and the
 5 Fe65 protein with the most distal region of the APP-Cter domain (Fiore et al., J. Biol. Chem., 1995, 270, 52, 30853-30856).

These various results show the complexity of the
 10 mechanisms in which amyloid precursor protein (APP) is involved.

The inventors have now shown that, surprisingly, peptides comprising the juxtamembrane domain (positions
 15 649-664) of the cytoplasmic domain of amyloid precursor protein (APP) have, after internalization into cells, apoptotic activity.

A subject of the present invention is peptides,
 20 characterized in that they consist of sequences which include the juxtamembrane domain of the cytoplasmic domain of amyloid precursor protein (APP) (one-letter code), and which are selected from the group consisting of the sequences Y₁KQYTSIH₀HGY₀ (SEQ ID NO: 2),
 25 Y₁KKQYTSIH₀HGY₀ (SEQ ID NO: 3) and Y₁KKKQYTSIH₀HGY₀ (SEQ ID NO: 4), in which Y₀ is null or represents V, VV, VVE VVEV or VVEVD and Y₁ represents an internalization and addressing peptide derived from the 3rd helix of homeodomains, and from structurally related peptides,
 30 and preferably corresponds to the sequence X₁X₂X₃X₄X₅X₆X₇X₈X₉X₁₀X₁₁X₁₂X₁₃X₁₄X₁₅X₁₆, in which X₁, X₂, X₃, X₄, X₅, X₆, X₇, X₈, X₉, X₁₀, X₁₁, X₁₂, X₁₃, X₁₄, X₁₅ and X₁₆ each represent an α -amino acid, 6 to 10 of said amino acids being hydrophobic and X₆ representing a tryptophan.

35 Among the preferred Y₁ sequences, mention may be made of the sequence KQIKIWFQNRRMKWKK (SEQ ID NO: 5).

5

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- bringing the potential inhibitor into contact with a cell into which a peptide as defined above has been internalized, and

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- figure 6 illustrates detection of p20 in a neuron by immunolabeling (arrow) (alkaline phosphatase); the p20 is present in all compartments; scale: 10 μ m,

5 - figure 7 illustrates activation of p20 by peptide Jcasp (2.4 μ M),

10 - figure 8 illustrates the results obtained in vivo: representative diagrams (one experiment, one animal per condition) of the distribution of fractin-positive cells in adjacent sections. The value 0 is arbitrarily attributed to the site of injection. The peptide Jcasp shows a greater number of fractin-positive cells compared to peptide J(Y→D)casp or to the control.

15

EXAMPLE 1: Materials and Methods

1.1 Primary cultures of neurons

20 Cortical and corticostriatal neurons are prepared, as described previously (Lafont et al., Development, 1992, 114, 17-29), from E14 mouse embryos or from E15 rat embryos.

25 Briefly, the dissociated cells are plated out onto polyornithine-coated plastic plates (ELISA-type plates) at a density of 5,000 cells per well, and incubated in a suitable medium supplemented with hormones, proteins and salts.

30

In order to verify the internalization of the peptide studied, the cells are plated out onto polyornithine-coated glass slides at a density of 100,000 cells per slide.

35

1.2 Preparation of peptides

The V1 vector (Penetratin or P = KQIKIWFQNRRMKWKK) (SEQ ID NO: 5) is used as an internalization peptide which,

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after genetic or chemical fusion to a cargo, allows the translocation thereof across the plasma membrane and the cytoplasmic and nuclear addressing thereof.

5 Several peptides were thus prepared:

. SEQ ID NO: 5 + entire cytoplasmic domain of APP (SEQ ID NO: 1).

10 . Y_1 KKKQYTSIH HGY_0 : SEQ ID NO: 4 in which Y_0 is null or represents VVEVD (Jcasp) and Y_1 represents SEQ ID NO: 5; the portion in bold corresponds to peptide G of figure 1.

15 . Y_1 KQYTSIH HGY_0 : SEQ ID NO: 2 in which Y_0 is null (peptide G) and Y_1 represents SEQ ID NO: 5; the portion in bold corresponds to peptide G of figure 1.

. Y_1 KKQYTSIH HGY_0 ; SEQ ID No. 3 in which Y_0 is null and Y_1
20 represents SEQ ID No. 5; the portion in bold corresponds to peptide G of figure 1.

. SEQ ID NO: 5 + domain E (VDAAVTPEE, SEQ ID NO: 6), underlined in the sequence according to figure 1.

25

. SEQ ID NO: 5 + domain H (NGYENPTYK, SEQ ID NO: 7), underlined in the sequence according to figure 1.

. SEQ ID NO: 5 + peptide corresponding to the MYC
30 sequence [EQKLISEED] (Pmyc peptide).

. SEQ ID NO: 5 + peptide J(Y→D)casp.

Peptide G corresponds to a transcytosis signal and
35 comprises a tyrosine residue (Y); the peptide was also internalized either after phosphorylation of this tyrosine (Y-P) or after its substitution with an alanine (Y→A) or an aspartate (Y→D). The two substitutions totally abolish the physiological effects

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of G, whereas phosphorylation reduces them without abolishing them. Insofar as Y→D mimics a phosphorylation, it may be proposed, as a parcimonious hypothesis, that the tyrosine is necessary, but that
5 the phosphorylation thereof probably is not, the intermediate effect of Y-P possibly then being explained by dephosphorylation of the peptide in the cell. It cannot, however, be excluded that phosphorylation is necessary but that the substitution
10 Y→D is not sufficient to mimic it.

These various peptides are synthesized chemically (95-98% purity, Synthem, France) with (Jcasp and J(Y→D)casp) or without N-terminal biotin and an
15 aminopentanoic acid spacer arm (Derossi et al., J. Biol. Chem., 1994, 269, 10444-10450).

It should be noted that, since the last 2 amino acids of the sequence SEQ ID NO: 5 are lysines (KK), peptide
20 G (KQYTSIHG) is artificially extended by 2 amino acids.

1.3 Internalization of the recombinant peptides into neurons

25

The internalization conditions are the same as those described in International Application WO 97/12912.

All the peptides are added to the cells two hours after
30 the latter have been plated out. The internalization is verified by confocal microscopy after immunolabeling (Pmyc) or detection of biotin (Jcasp and its variants).

The internalization and the intracellular stability of
35 Jcasp, Pmyc and J(Y→D)Casp are identical. The irreversible caspase inhibitors zVAD-fmk (100 μM) and zDEVD-fmk (200 μM) (Calbiochem, France) are added 1 hour before addition of the peptide.

1.4 Immunocytochemistry and quantification of apoptotic cells

The apoptotic cells are detected by TUNEL labeling
5 (fluorescein or alkaline phosphatase kits) as described by the supplier (Roche Diagnostics, France).

For the immunodetection of the fractin or of the p20
10 subunit of caspase 3 (Pharminogen), the cells are fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde (30 minutes, room temperature), washed three times with PBS and saturated for 1 hour at 37°C with 10% fetal calf serum (FCS) in PBS containing 0.2% of Triton X 100.

15 Purified primary antibodies directed against fractin or p20 are diluted (in PBS-FCS) 2000-fold and 500-fold, respectively, incubated overnight at 4°C washed three times and incubated with biotinylated anti-rabbit antibodies.

20

The detection is carried out using the alkaline phosphatase amplification kit (Vector, France).

For each condition, 600 to 800 cells are counted three
25 times.

The statistical analysis is carried out with ANOVA and the Scheffé test.

30 1.5 In vivo tests

1 µl (0.2 µl/min) of 2.7 µM of Jcasp (n = 8) or J(Y→D)Casp (n = 6), or of PBS (n = 3) is injected
35 stereotactically into the cortex of adult mice with the co-ordinates A=0, L=2 and D=1.5 (mouse brain Atlas by KBJ Franklin and G. Paxinos, Academic Press). 24 hours later, the animals are sacrificed and perfused with 4% paraformaldehyde, and the brains are extracted and cryoprotected.

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Frozen sections (16 μ m thick) are prepared and used for TUNEL detection or detection by fractin immunocytochemistry, using the purified primary antibody (1/100th dilution in PBS-FCS) without amplification and an anti-rabbit secondary antibody labeled with Cy3 and diluted to 1/400th (Jackson Immunoresearch Laboratories, Inc.). The number of fractin-positive cells is counted on adjacent sections. The statistical analysis is carried out by ANOVA and the Fischer test.

EXAMPLE 2: In vitro results

2.1. Induction of neuronal apoptosis

Internalization of the entire C-ter domain (APP-Cter) is not toxic but has, however, a negative effect on neurite growth. The internalization of peptides E and H has no effect, whereas that of peptide G, at concentrations lower than one μ M, reproduces the effects of the intact C-terminal domain.

The most advantageous result is that peptide G, at concentrations of the order of 1 to 1.5 μ M, or peptide Jcasp, at concentrations of 1.2 to 2.4 μ M, causes neuronal death, and that this death corresponds to an apoptotic, and therefore regulated, process.

The apoptotic nature of the death caused by the internalization of peptide G or of peptide Jcasp (figures 2-7) is demonstrated by the DNA fragmentation, revealed by the "TUNEL" method (figures 2 and 3), and by the activation of caspases (figures 4-7). The activation of caspases is demonstrated by the appearance of cleaved forms of actin and by the blocking of apoptosis by caspase inhibitors with a broad spectrum of activity (inhibitor of caspase 1, 3,

4 and 7), such as zVAD or zDEVD-fmk (figures 4, 5 and 7), more specific for caspase 3.

Figures 2 and 3 illustrate the quantification of the DNA cleavage by the TUNEL technique 24 h after internalization of the peptides.

Peptide G was internalized at 2 concentrations (1X and 2X) and peptide Gcasp (or Jcasp) was internalized at the 1X concentration, in the presence or absence of the caspase inhibitor zVAD.

Each condition was tested in triplicate. The percentage of positive cells was evaluated after 24 h by counting approximately 1000 cells per well. The graph indicates a significant increase in the DNA cleavage in the presence of peptide G alone (concentration 1X: $p < 0.0001$; concentration 2X: $p < 0.0001$) and of peptide Jcasp (or Gcasp) (KKKQYTSIHGVEVD) (SEQ ID NO. 4 in which $Y_0 = VVEVD$ and $Y_1 = \text{SEQ ID NO: 5}$) (concentration 1X: $p < 0.0001$). The ZVAD inhibits this increase in cleavage.

Peptide Jcasp induces neuronal apoptosis. Two hours after plating out onto plates, peptide Jcasp is added to the E15 rat cortical neurones and cell death is evaluated by the TUNEL effect, 24 hours later. Figure 3 shows that peptide Jcasp (1.2 and 2.4 μM) produces DNA fragmentation.

Substitution of the tyrosine with an aspartate decreases cell death, as for peptide G, whereas the internalization of a myc peptide which has no relation to APP and is linked to penetratin (Pmyc) has no effect on the number of positive cells obtained by the TUNEL method.

Since the DNA fragmentation suggests apoptosis, the same experiment was carried out in the presence of

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G2X/zVADG2X: $p < 0.0001$; Gcasp/zVADGcasp: $p < 0.0001$), even though the inhibition is not complete.

Figure 5 shows that peptide Jcasp induces actin cleavage. It also shows that peptide J(Y→D)casp is relatively inactive and that the inhibitor zDEVD-fmk, which is more specific for caspase 3, inhibits the actin cleavage induced by peptide Jcasp.

10 - quantification of the actin cleavage by caspase 3 by measuring p20

In order to verify that caspase 3 is effectively involved in the apoptosis caused by peptide Jcasp, use is made of the fact that this enzyme (caspase 3) is synthesized in the form of a propeptide (37 kDa) which, after stimulation, generates an active subunit of 17-22 kDa (p20).

20 Immunoreactivity for p20 is examined in mouse cortical embryonic neurons cultured for 24 hours in the presence of several peptides. Figure 6 illustrates the immunoreactivity for the p20 protein and figure 7 quantifies the induction of the p20.

25 Peptide Jcasp (2.4 μ M) induces maturation of p20; significantly less effect is obtained with peptide J(Y→D)casp, confirming the importance of the tyrosine residue in caspase 3 induction.

30 The inhibitor zDEVD-fmk significantly decreases the activation of p20, suggesting that the apoptosis induced by peptide Jcasp involves maturation of caspase 3.

35 The inventors have therefore clearly shown the pro-apoptotic nature of peptide G internalized by virtue of its linkage to vector V1.

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The identification of such substances is therefore very useful for developing treatments for the apoptosis which accompanies Alzheimer's disease.

1. A peptide, characterized in that it consists of a sequence which includes the juxtamembrane domain of the cytoplasmic domain of amyloid precursor protein (β APP) (one-letter code), and which are selected from the group consisting of the sequences $Y_1KQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 2), $Y_1KKQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 3) and $Y_1KKKQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 4), in which Y_0 is null or represents V, VV, VVE VVEV or VVEVD and Y_1 represents an internalization and addressing peptide derived from the 3rd helix of homeodomains, and from structurally related peptides.

2. The peptide as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said internalization and addressing peptide corresponds to the sequence $X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5X_6X_7X_8X_9X_{10}X_{11}X_{12}X_{13}X_{14}X_{15}X_{16}$, in which $X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6, X_7, X_8, X_9, X_{10}, X_{11}, X_{12}, X_{13}, X_{14}, X_{15}$ and X_{16} each represent an α -amino acid, 6 to 10 of said amino acids being hydrophobic and X_6 representing a tryptophan.

3. The peptide as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that the sequence Y_1 corresponds to the sequence KQIKIWFQNRRMKWKK (SEQ ID NO: 5).

4. The use of a peptide comprising the juxtamembrane domain of the cytoplasmic domain of amyloid precursor protein (APP), for selecting and screening products capable of inhibiting apoptosis.

5. The use as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that said peptide is combined with an internalization peptide selected from the group consisting of internalization peptides capable of crossing the blood-brain barrier.

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6. The use as claimed in either of claims 4 and 5, characterized in that said peptide is selected from the group consisting of the sequences (one-letter code) Y₁KQYTSIH₀HGY₀ (SEQ ID NO: 2), Y₁KKQYTSIH₀HGY₀ (SEQ ID NO: 3) and Y₁KKKQYTSIH₀HGY₀ (SEQ ID NO: 4), in which Y₀ is null or represents V, VV, VVE VVEV or VVEVD and Y₁ is null or represents an internalization and addressing peptide derived from the 3rd helix of homeodomains, and from structurally related peptides.
7. The use as claimed in any one of claims 4 to 6, characterized in that said internalization peptide corresponds to the sequence X₁X₂X₃X₄X₅X₆X₇X₈X₉X₁₀X₁₁X₁₂X₁₃X₁₄X₁₅X₁₆, in which X₁,X₂,X₃,X₄,X₅,X₆,X₇,X₈,X₉,X₁₀,X₁₁,X₁₂,X₁₃,X₁₄,X₁₅ and X₁₆ each represent an α -amino acid, 6 to 10 of said amino acids being hydrophobic and X₆ representing a tryptophan.
8. The use of cells, into which a peptide as defined in claims 4 to 7 has been internalized, for selecting and screening products capable of inhibiting apoptosis.
9. A method for screening and selecting products, capable of inhibiting apoptosis, characterized in that it comprises:
 - bringing the potential inhibitor into contact with a cell into which a peptide as defined in claims 4 to 7 has been internalized, and
 - measuring cleavage of DNA or of actin or measuring the p20 subunit of caspase 3.

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10. The use of a peptide as defined in claims 4 to 7,
for preparing an anticancer medicinal product.
- 5 11. A peptide, characterized in that it is selected
from the group consisting of the sequences (one-
letter code) $Y_1KQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 2) and
 $Y_1KKQYTSIHG Y_0$ (SEQ ID NO: 3), in which Y_0 is null
or represents V, VV, VVE VVEV or VVEVD and Y_1 is
10 null, and of the peptide of formula $Y_1KKKQYTSIHG Y_0$
(SEQ ID NO: 4), in which Y_0 represents VVEVD and Y_1
is null.

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(54) Title: USES OF PEPTIDES DERIVED FROM THE CYTOPLASMIC DOMAIN OF THE AMYLOID PROTEIN PRECUR-
SOR (APP)

(54) Titre: APPLICATIONS DE PEPTIDES ISSUS DU DOMAINE CYTOPLASMIQUE DU PRECURSEUR DE LA PROTEINE
AMYLOÏDE (APP)

(57) Abstract: The invention concerns novel uses of peptides derived from the cytoplasmic domain of the amyloid protein precursor (APP); said peptides are in particular sequences including the membrane domain juxtaposed to the cytoplasmic domain of the amyloid protein precursor (APP) (one-letter code), selected in the group consisting of the sequences Y₁KQYTSIHGGY₀ (SEQ ID NO:2), Y₁KKQYTSIHGGY₀ (SEQ ID NO:3) and Y₁KKKQYTSIHGGY₀ (SEQ ID NO:4), wherein Y₀ is nil or represents V, VV, VVE, VVEV or VVEVD and Y₁ represents an internalisation and addressing peptide, derived from the 3rd helix of homeodomains and structurally related peptides. The invention also concerns the use of a peptide comprising the membrane domain juxtaposed to the cytoplasmic domain of the amyloid protein precursor (APP), for selecting and screening products capable of inhibiting apoptosis.

(57) Abrégé: Nouvelles applications de peptides issus du domaine cytoplasmique du précurseur de la protéine amyloïde (APP); les-dits peptides sont notamment constitués par des séquences incluant le domaine juxtamembranaire du domaine cytoplasmique du précurseur de la protéine amyloïde (APP) (code une lettre), sélectionnées dans le groupe constitué par les séquences Y₁KQYTSIHGGY₀ (SEQ ID NO :2), Y₁KKQYTSIHGGY₀ (SEQ ID NO :3) et Y₁KKKQYTSIHGGY₀ (SEQ ID NO :4), dans lesquelles Y₀ est nul ou représente V, VV, VVE VVEV ou VVEVD et Y₁ représente un peptide d'internalisation et d'adressage, issu de la 3^{ème} hélice des homéodomaines et de peptides structurellement apparentés. Utilisation d'un peptide comprenant le domaine juxtamembranaire du domaine cytoplasmique du précurseur de la protéine amyloïde (APP), pour la sélection et le criblage de produits aptes à inhiber l'apoptose.



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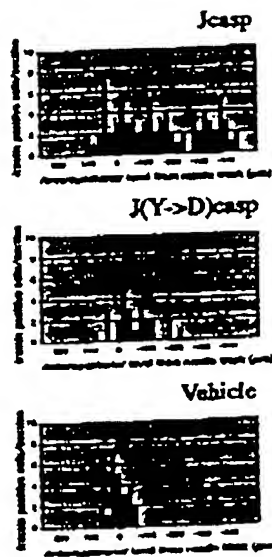


FIGURE 8

COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 045636-5053

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**APPLICATIONS OF PEPTIDES DERIVED FROM THE CYTOSOLASMIC
DOMAIN OF AMYLOID PRECURSOR PROTEIN (APP)**

the specification of which:

is attached hereto; or

was filed as United States application Serial No. 10/048,209 on January 30, 2002 and was amended on _____ (if applicable); or

was filed as PCT international application Number PCT/FR00/02174 on July 28, 2000 and was amended under PCT Article 19 on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office information which is material to the patentability of claims presented in this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or §365(a) of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S):

COUNTRY (if PCT, indicate PCT)	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED
France	99/09929	30 July 1999	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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I hereby claim the benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

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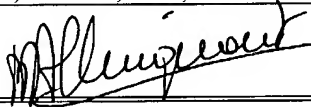
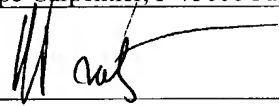
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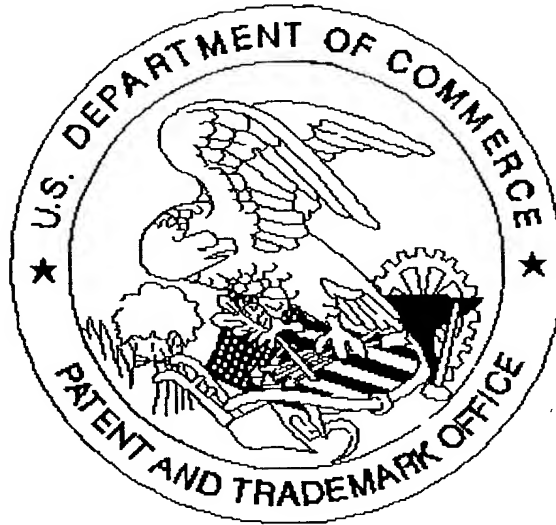
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